United Nations A/59/82

General Assembly

Distr.: General
11 May 2004

Original: English

Fifty-ninth session
Item 60 of the preliminary list*
Maintenance of international security — good-neighbourliness, stability and development in South-Eastern Europe

Letter dated 10 May 2004 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour, on my own behalf and on behalf of the Permanent Representative of the Republic of Croatia, Vladimir Drobnjak and the Permanent Representative of the Republic of Albania, Agim Nesho, to draw your attention to the joint statement of the Ministers for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Albania, the Republic of Croatia and the Republic of Macedonia on the occasions of the first anniversary of the signing of the United States-Adriatic Charter of Partnership (see annex).

I would be grateful if the text of the present letter and its annex could be circulated under item 60 of the preliminary list of items to be included in the provisional agenda of the fifty-ninth session of the General Assembly.

(*Signed*) Jon **Ivanovski**
Minister Counsellor
Charge d'affaires a.i.
of the Permanent Mission of the
Republic of Macedonia to the United Nations

* A/59/50 and Corr. 1.

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Annex to the letter dated 10 May 2004 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

Joint statement of the Ministers for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Albania, the Republic of Croatia and the Republic of Macedonia on the occasion of the first anniversary of the signing of the United States-Adriatic Charter of Partnership

It is our great pleasure to mark today the first anniversary of the signing of the Charter of Partnership among Albania, Croatia, Macedonia and the United States.

A year ago in Tirana, a document of partnership and solidarity was signed, unifying our efforts in achieving a strategic goal of NATO membership.

This Partnership has already proved to be a strong vehicle for contributing to a vision of Europe, whole, free, secure and at peace.

Within one year we have accomplished numerous activities. The Ohrid Conference on the implementation of the Charter and the first meeting of the Partnership Commission in Washington, D.C., outlined a strong impetus in strengthening our individual and cooperative efforts in intensifying comprehensive domestic reforms, as well as in contributing further to the security, stability and prosperity of the region of South-East Europe and to an early integration of its countries in the European and Euro-Atlantic structures.

We applaud the recent enlargement of the Alliance with its seven new members and recognize it as a confirmation that the doors of NATO will remain open until all European democracies, sharing common values, ideals and interests, become members.

The ambition of our respective countries is to intensify and complete all the necessary reforms in order to be invited to start accession talks at the earliest possible date, and enter into the Alliance in its next enlargement round.

We reiterate our appreciation of the United States support for our efforts to achieve the common goal — our NATO membership — and confirm our dedication to continue to work together in the spirit of the Charter until and beyond the achievement of our goal.

Further steps are ahead of us. We will discuss them during the second meeting of the Partnership Commission, to be held in Skopje on 19 and 20 May 2004.

Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Albania
Kastriot Islami

Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Croatia
Miomir Žužul

Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Macedonia
Ilinka Mitreva